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VOL. 7—NEW SERIES NO 278.

LEADERS ARE POWERLESS.

Democrats in the House again at the Mercy of the Filibusterers.

SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE TO GET A QUORUM.

Several Democrats, Among Them Bourke Cockran, Refrained from Voting—An Amendment to the Rules.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 5.—The filibustering of the last two days again had the effect of bringing a large attendance to the House to-day. In spite of the rainy weather there was a crowd in the galleries, and there appeared to be a pretty full representation on the floor. The Democratic side of the chamber was far from overawing, although Col. Ike F. F., the assistant sergeant-at-arms who is generally known as the Democratic "whip," had succeeded, as he thought, in securing the attendance of twenty-eight Democrats who had been absent yesterday.

Immediately after the reading of yesterday's Journal, Mr. Bouteille tried to resume his tactics of yesterday and the day before. By his efforts to obtain consideration for his Hawaiian resolution he precipitated a sharp contest with the Speaker.

Mr. Catchings was trying to obtain recognition at the same time, and though the Speaker had recognized him, Mr. Bouteille continued to demand consideration of his resolution. He stated that his resolution was still pending, as it was unacted upon when the House adjourned yesterday, and that as it was a privileged resolution it should have preference over all other business. The Speaker replied that he had recognized the gentleman from Mississippi, who wished to make a report from the Committee on Rules, and that such resolutions were of the highest privilege and took precedence over all other privileged resolutions.

Bouteille demands Recognition.

Mr. Bouteille insisted that his resolution was before the House and had not yet been disposed of, and asked the Speaker where it had gone. The Speaker replied that on the question of its consideration no quorum had voted.

Mr. Bouteille: Yesterday the House failed to decide what would be done with it. Where has that resolution gone, Mr. Speaker?

The Speaker (with a slight show of irritation): It is exactly where it was. The Speaker was most forcibly pointing out that he gave in a vain effort to restore order, but Mr. Bouteille was not satisfied with such a disposition of his question and continued to demand recognition.

Mr. Burrows, of Michigan, then joined in the melee, and he and Mr. Bouteille took a position at the foot of the first aisle and endeavored to get the Speaker's eye. The Speaker refused to recognize any one, however, and continued to appeal for order, which was finally secured.

Immediately afterwards, Mr. Burrows was recognized and stated that he wished to resume his tactics against the resolution above to be offered.

Mr. Bouteille, however, was not so easily disposed of, and said defiantly that he thought he was entitled to an answer from the Chair.

The Speaker announced firmly that he recognized the gentleman from Mississippi, and directed the clerk to read the resolution which he had offered.

Amendment to the Rules.

The resolution was then read, at first and a great uproar in the House, which gradually subsided. It is as follows:

Resolved, That after the passage of this resolution, the House shall meet at 11 o'clock A. M., that beginning to-day, without intervening motion, except conference reports, and reports from the Committee on Rules, the Journal shall be read, business under clause 1, rule 24, shall be disposed of, the Speaker shall call the committee for reports, and then the House shall resolve itself into the Committee on Rules, the house remaining in the state of the Union for the consideration of House bill No. 481; that general debate on the said bill shall be limited to the hour of adjournment on Wednesday, the 10th of January; that on Thursday, the 11th of January, said bill, shall be read through and shall from day to day be open to amendment in any part thereof; that on Thursday, the 25th day of January, at the hour of 12 o'clock noon, said bill, with all amendments recommended by or that may be pending in the Committee of the Whole, shall be referred to the House; that the previous question shall then be considered ordered on pending amendments and the bill to its passage; that without other motions the vote shall then be taken on pending amendments, on the engrossment and third reading, on a motion to recommit, or without instructions, should such motion be made, on the final passage of the bill, and on motion to reconsider and lay on the table. That beginning with Monday next, at the hour of 5:30 each day, the House shall take a recess until 8 o'clock, the evening session to be devoted to general debate on such bill only.

General leave to print remarks on said bill is hereby given. That without other motion, the vote shall then be taken on pending amendments, on the engrossment and third reading, on a motion to reconsider, without instructions, should such motion be made, on the final passage of the bill, and on a motion to re-

consider.

The rule having been read, Mr. Burrows raised the question of consideration, but the Speaker announced that under former rulings the question of consideration could not be raised upon a report from the Committee on Rules. Mr. Bouteille appealed from the decision of the Chair, but the Speaker refused to entertain the appeal.

Where the Rule Originated.

Mr. Burrows then stated in a quiet way that he wished to ask Mr. Catchings whether the rule just read had its inception on the floor of the House, or in the Committee on Rules.

Mr. Catchings replied that it had originated in the Committee on Rules.

Mr. Burrows stated that he was aware that the Committee on Rules had the power to originate rules, and that such had been the ruling of the Chair some days ago. Continuing, he said that under rule 24 provision is made for the disposition of all propositions introduced in the House, directing to what committee they should be referred, and that clause 1 provided specifically that all propositions touching the rules of procedure and order of business should be referred to the Committee on Rules. This was a proposition which not only related to the order of business, but involved a change to the rules of the House. In particular it affected the rule which provided for the daily meeting of the House at 12 o'clock, and the practice, which had grown into a rule, that no speech could be opened in the House unless delivered in the House.

The proposition under consideration changed the rules, and related to the rules of the House. In particular it affected the rule which provided for the daily meeting of the House at 12 o'clock, and the practice, which had grown into a rule, that no speech could be opened in the House unless delivered in the House.

Councilors Fight.

MADRID, Jan. 5.—At the opening to-day of the new municipal Council, at Malaga, the members became involved in disputes that ended in scenes of violence. Several of the councilors engaged in fistfights, and a free fight appeared to be imminent. A general row was started out by the hasty adjournment of the Council. A similar scene took place at the meeting of the new Council of Madrid. Owing to the exceedingly free criticism of his acts indulged in by the councilors, the Mayor resigned. He will probably be succeeded by the Duke of Tamaro, who was one of the party that accompanied the Infanta Eulalia to the United States last

spring.

committee had no more jurisdiction or right to do such thing than any other committee of the House. The rule providing that all such propositions should be referred to the Committee on Rules presupposed that they originated in the House. He was aware, he stated, that the Chairman ruled to the contrary, but he was satisfied in his own mind that such propositions should first have their inception in the House.

Bouteille Squelched.

The Speaker read the ruling made by him in the Fifty-second Congress, sustaining his present ruling, but he did not know whether an appeal had been entered against it or not.

Mr. Burrows said that that ruling provided for the order of business, and not for a change of rules.

The Speaker: The gentleman will understand that almost any order fixing the order of business is a change of rules.

Mr. Bouteille again arose, and was asked by the Speaker for what purpose he desired recognition.

"For a parliamentary inquiry," Mr. Speaker, replied Mr. Bouteille. "The gentleman will state it." said the Speaker, evidently somewhat dubious as to the outcome.

"I desire to know," said Mr. Bouteille, "under what rule the House did the Chair decline to entertain my appeal."

The Speaker answered somewhat tartly that it was not the duty of the Chair, on demand or request of the gentleman from Maine, to furnish him with any information. (Laughter along the Democratic side.)

The question was then put on Mr. Catchings' motion for the previous question, which was ordered by a viva voce vote, the House dividing on party lines.

Mr. Bouteille called for a division, and as he took his seat, shouted to his Republican colleagues: "Don't vote; don't vote."

Forty-One Short of a Quorum.

The result was that the Republicans strictly abstained from voting, and the Democrats, with only 125 votes, forty-one short of a quorum.

Mr. Catchings asked for the years and nays, and after the call had been completed Mr. Springer asked that the names of those voting should be read. This was done, showing that 189 had voted in the affirmative (all Democrats) and one in the negative (Bell, of Colorado).

Before the vote was announced Mr. Campbell (Dem., New York) said that he was paired with Mr. Belden (Rep., New York) on a personal question, but he voted now to sustain a quorum.

He made this statement because the newspapers had commented upon his not voting yesterday. Mr. Sperry (Dem., Conn.) did not vote. Neither did Messrs. Haines (Dem., New York), Cadmus (Dem., New Jersey), Cockran (Dem., New York), and Blanchard and Price (Dem., Louisiana), all voted with their party associates.

What the Mine Owners Want.

The miners, operators, and employees of the transporting companies ask only of the Virginia delegation that in these perilous financial times they will leave coal alone. From the foundation of the government to the present time the average tariff on coal has been \$1 per ton. It is now 75 cents per ton, and was kept at this figure in both the Morrison and Mills bills.

The Wilson bill does not seem to gain strength and support, and the very fact of these delays, and the call for a caucus, evidences the fact that the Democrats are divided upon its merits.

Messrs. R. B. Glenn, the United States district attorney for the Eastern district of North Carolina, and D. A. Covington, the assistant attorney for the same district, were at the Department of Justice to-day.

General and Mrs. Peyton Wise have returned to Washington, and the General is busy in his committee arranging the details for the long winter's work.

The Pilots Bill.

Col. R. C. Marshall, representing the Virginia Pilots' Association, called upon Senator Hansom, chairman of the Committee on Commerce of the Senate, with respect to two Senate bills referred to his committee affecting the interests of the State pilots of the United States. One of the bills presented is identical with one which has been regularly defeated by each succeeding Congress for years. The other provides for the establishment by the government of a general pilot system for the entire United States.

H. L. W.

NEW WAY OF HANDLING STRIKES.

The Northern Pacific Took the Bull by the Horns and Won.

NEW YORK, Jan. 5.—The Northern Pacific Railroad Company are paying the interest due on its first mortgage bonds, Railroad magnates and Wall-street men generally are discussing the manner in which the threatened strike on the Northern Pacific was handled. It was well known that the railroad company adopted a policy of non-resistance in the history of railroading. When the receivers first heard of the threatened strike, they issued a schedule of prices, but the men and the labor unions refused positively to accede to the terms.

A reduction of the tariff of twenty-five cents per ton, one-third of the present rate, would destroy all the profit in the New England markets for the Virginia mines. Heretofore the Virginia miners have been sold for the retention of this duty. No party which has ever driven them from what they considered the proper protection of this Virginia interest, Our present Governor offered the amendment in the House to the report of the committee on the Mills bill restoring the duty on coal. This duty puts at least \$1,000,000 annually in the United States Treasury, which at this time, with the deficit already existing, cannot be spared.

The average percentage in the McKinley bill is 48 per cent. The Treasury Department reports the average duty on coal at 23 per cent, under that bill. In the Wilson bill the average percentage is reduced to 40 per cent, while coal, which is only a little more than one-half of this, is put upon the free list.

Mr. F. O'Farrell, San Jose, Calif., moved that the question should be determined by tellers, and accordingly he and Mr. Catchings went through the form of counting the vote, and announced that there were 123 in the affirmative and 10 in the negative. Accordingly, it was expected that further proceedings under the call should be dispensed with, and the question referred on Mr. Catchings' motion for the previous question. The ayes and nays were read, and the Republicans remained dumb while 189 Democrats voted to order the previous question, the names being read. As the majority still lacked ten of a quorum, Mr. Catchings again moved a call of the House, and on this question Mr. Reed again called for a division, stating, sotto voce, that "All we need is mathematics."

The Democrats Again Yield.

The motion of Mr. Catchings was agreed to by a vote of 104 yeas to 31 nays, and this, the second call, showed the presence of 257 members.

Mr. Catchings again moved to dispense with further proceedings under the call, and this was ordered after a short skirmish, led by Mr. Burrows. The motion to order the previous question then recurred, and the roll was again called. Before this was completed, the clerk becoming weary of the monotonous round of roll-calls, began to stir over the titles, and finally settled down to calling the members by their surnames.

The Democrats seemed further off than ever from a quorum, for on the third call of yeas and nays but 188 members voted, as against 189 on the second and first. Mr. Catchings, however, did not lose heart, and again moved a call of the House, which showed the presence of 201 members. Mr. Reed again called for a division, stating, sotto voce, that "All we need is mathematics."

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The fourth roll-call resulted: Yeas, 196; nays, none. Mr. McMillin (Dem., Tenn.), asked that the names of those voting should be read, and his motion was denied—his proposal doubtless being to call attention to those who refrained from voting.

Mr. Catchings then threw up the sponge, and at 3:30, at his instance, the House adjourned until to-morrow.

BANKING RUMORS.

A Report that St. Nicholas is to Be Reorganized—A Consolidation.

NEW YORK, Jan. 5.—Wall street was busy to-day with rumors of new banks and bank organizations, and some of the rumors have little foundation in fact. One report, which has a good deal of truth back of it, was that a number of wealthy men have under contemplation the reorganization of the St. Nicholas Bank. The idea is to put new men throughout in the bank, make its capital one million with a surplus of equal amount, and put ex-Congressman Theodore W. Myers in as president.

Another matter that is interesting in the street, is the reported pooling of the business of the Southern and United States National Banks, the consolidated concern being continued under the name of the former. It is known that a plan of consolidation is being considered by the United States people, but it is probable nothing will be done until after Tuesday next. On the subject of the new Council of the St. Nicholas Bank, it is said that the new president will be named to succeed W. Flanagan, who will retire.

President Parker of the United States National Bank wishes to retire, it is said, but the report that he will be succeeded by Logan G. Murray, now president of the Tradesmen's National Bank, on Broadway, is utterly without foundation.

Councilors Fight.

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spring.

No Care in Office.

Congressman Alexander, of North Carolina, was not in the least spoiled by his holiday vacation, but resumed work in earnest on the first day of the new session. He was at the Department of the Interior yesterday, and hopes very soon to appear in the House. He has endorsed Mr. Heins for the postmaster-general of Monroe, N. C., and will call on Postmaster-General Bissell to-morrow to urge his appointment.

The proposition under consideration changes the rules, and involves a change to the rules of the House. In particular it affected the rule which provided for the daily meeting of the House at 12 o'clock, and the practice, which had grown into a rule, that no speech could be opened in the House unless delivered in the House.

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